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Art IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Pre Application of:  
CAMPBELL ET AL.

) Group Art Unit: 3308

) Examiner: Milano, M.

Serial No. 08/499,423

Filed: July 7, 1995

For: INTERIOR LINER FOR TUBES, PIPES)  
AND BLOOD CONDUITS )

RECEIVED  
NOV 12 1996  
GROUP 3300

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**Certificate of Mailing:** I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date October 30, 1996.

Melanie Williams Melanie Williams Oct 30, 1996  
Name of person mailing paper Signature of person mailing paper Date of mailing

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT UNDER 35 USC § 121

Dear Sir:

The following is submitted in response to the communication from the Examiner dated September 30, 1996.

The Examiner divided the case into four groups as follows:

- > Group I (claims 1-97) drawn to an article comprising a tube
- Group II (claims 98-104) drawn to a method of making a tube
- Group III (claims 105-116) drawn to a surgical method for repairing a vascular graft
- Group IV (claim 117) drawn to a surgical method of lining a blood conduit

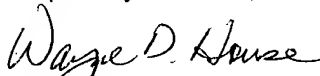
Applicants hereby elect Group I (claims 1-97) without traverse and anticipate filing additional patent applications at a later time to prosecute non-elected claims.

The Examiner stated additionally that the claims of Group I also contain two patentably distinct species as follow:

- Species I: the tubular article of claims 1-35 and 42-97
- Species II: the tubular article of helically wound tape (claims 36-41)

The Applicants elect the claims of Species I for prosecution at this time; however, the election is made with traverse in that the Applicants would respectfully point out that claim 1 appears to be generic to claims 36-41 and that consequently it would be appropriate to leave these claims in the application until the patentability of claim 1 is resolved.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Date: 30 OCT 1996



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Melanee Williams

Name of person mailing paper

Melanee Williams

Signature of person mailing paper

Oct. 30, 1996

Date of mailing

**LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated September 30, 1996, we enclose the following papers for filing in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified Patent Application:

1. Response to Restriction Requirement (2 pages)

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Respectfully submitted,

Wayne D. House

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